



July 16, 2026

The Honorable Buffy Wicks
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee
1021 O Street, Room 8220
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: SB 1049 (Weber Pierson) — SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Wicks:

Just as patients deserve access to lifesaving health care regardless of their ability to pay, providers deserve to be reimbursed for the services they provide. However, minor coding errors or documentation oversights can result in the permanent loss of reimbursement for medically necessary care that has already been provided. **On behalf of nearly 400 hospitals and health systems committed to improving the health of all Californians, the California Hospital Association is pleased to support Senate Bill (SB) 1049 (Weber Pierson, D-San Diego),** which would ensure that technical claim defects do not result in the permanent loss of reimbursement for medically necessary services.

Under current law, hospitals can easily be denied **any** payment for care delivered to patients as a result of minor, correctable errors, such as simple coding or documentation oversights. When these errors are identified after the standard 90-day filing window, existing regulations often prevent hospitals from submitting a correction — even if the service was appropriately delivered. This creates a system where health plans pad their bottom lines by denying payment for services based on administrative or technical errors, at the expense of the providers who delivered medically necessary care to patients.

SB 1049 would advance two important policy objectives:

- **Establish a uniform right for providers to submit a corrected claim within 90 days following a plan's latest action (such as a denial or overpayment notice) if that corrected claim would resolve the issue**
- **Prohibit health care plans from rejecting those corrected claims based on filing deadlines — ensuring fair payment, reducing avoidable conflicts, and promoting efficient processing for appropriate reimbursement**

By streamlining the dispute process and ensuring fairness and transparency in claims processing, this bill would reduce the need for costly appeals and litigation, enabling hospitals to redirect those resources to patient care.

For these reasons, **CHA requests your “AYE” vote on SB 1049.**

Sincerely,



Meghan Loper
Consulting Lobbyist
California Hospital Association

cc: The Honorable Akilah Weber Pierson, MD
The Honorable Members of the Assembly Appropriations Committee
Allegra Kim, Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee
Justin Boman, Health Policy Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus